UNE INFOLETTRE DE PUNK MONTRÉALAIS

+ D.I.Y. SHOW LISTING

LA CHAÎNE

#26 – MARS 2025

FREE

I guess things have finally gotten bad enough that more people are leaving the data-harvesting anxiety machine known as "social media." I asked four questions of four people who have quit social media about how it has changed their lives.

1. Which platform did you kick, when, and what was the final straw? 2. What do you miss? 3. What don't you miss? 4. What have you been doing to entertain yourself, stay informed, stay in touch with your friends, etc?

Misery, 33, punk house punisher

1. I deleted my instagram on January 1st. I'm not really into new years resolutions but it felt fitting. All social media is horrendous for upholding the fascist ideals interlinked with big tech, I didn't want to play their attention-grabbing game anymore.

2. There's a lot of international friends I only communicated with on instagram. I miss seeing the curated glimpses into their daily lives, and the low states conversations we had. My world feels a little smaller and disconnected from people I don't see on a regular basis.

3. I love not seeing the algorithm pushing hateful right wing slop/fucked up "meat eater" diets, endless amazon/temu/whatever ads or the strange amount of breastfeeding/pregnancy info shovelled my way. Also my phone battery lasts SO much longer now that I'm not stuck in the scroll/checking it neurotically every 10 minutes.

4. I've always been a chronically online person, but I've spent more time interacting with mastodon/the 438punkhouse instance. I don't want to take too much credit for it, but immediately after I left instagram the group of punks who occasionally play Magic: The Gathering made a signal group chat. Getting more friends to use signal always rules.

22, magician

1. All of them
I had deleted everything with exception of Instant Gratification Mechanism a few years past. Then repeatedly deleting et reactivating et using it in a browser for a year or so
Sever ties completely around end of 2023. I hear there is recent mass migration away from social media platforms in some form of political action. I am not a part of that if this is why you are taking interviews. I am not against it but nobody has explained to me why yet.
FINAL STRAWS:
- SURVEILLANCE GRID AND SUBCONSCIOUS MANIPULATION
- Overhearing conversations between people who consume digital media on a daily basis (exhausting)
- You mufucka watch too much movies and phone cant take shit serious in real life
- My head hurts enough already
- I am far to paranoid to be on display at 3000 people
- I could go on I will summarize to say it has proven an awfully devestating decision for our human condition to impose this addictive external reality with a pathological structure of idol worship and machine forged social prowess atop of what already is. Everybody knows though they are addicted to the comfort.

NUMBER TWO
Nothing at all Really it is daunting in the beginning but with enough time I come to feel disgusted by it or something lol....I have reactivated to try and make a post a few months ago and felt very freaked out using it again couldn't do it. I love privacy and silent.
Keeping in touch with some friends international or too broke to pay a phone plan was a luxury I no longer have to the same extent. But moreso the eyes of blood/thirsty acquaintances is what you rid yourself. International homies they will just whatsapp you.

Trois
I do not miss these infectious overlord imposing their doctrines and insolent ways on my peaceful. I don't need this burning box to show me a child dying by drone strike while I drink my coffee. And the unhealthy relationships propaganda. No subconscious mind is immune. Yes I for many years suffered the constant phone checking compulsion. This persists a moment but will dissipate with time

QUATRO
My life has not changed very much. I posess the ability to cost to coast traverse this country from memory without a phone. I still feel as if I am running out of time. That never changes. Hop trains and walk long distances trying to see as much beauty in world before I am moving into a new foreign body. Travel 7 or 8 countries. Play every instrument musical + including the paintbrush and pen. I do not like to showcase my work publicly much. RECURRANT THOUGHT: You will never scroll back 9 years into an instagram profile. Though the same person's zine or book from 9 years past is sitting on the table at a friends and you will inevitably flip through it. Do not sacrifice precious photos and art into this predatory applications.
I am writing this from mexico. Hope you are all enjoying the bleak. And Yes I am affected by the object impermanence and split second attention span of most people. I like to use signal to stay in touch with my mother. Respect to all who followed suit in my efforts of replace social media use with signal stories. To stay informed I speak with the deity who keeps breaking through the fabric of my lucid vision.

Please return in april for my written memoir 'montreal punk are complacent and too scared to break the law for their morals and wellbeing'

anne, 31,

1. i kicked Instagram out in early december after multiple attempts over a year of deleting the app and relapsing, the final straw was when i finally put my whole virtual account data in the trash and set it on fire then took the burning trash and launched it on META headquarters HHAHAHAHHAHA

2. i miss contact with some friends and potential friends and bands and art and infos etc. i very ironically probably wouldn't be on 438punk.house if i didn't met my friend Jack through an IG story who told me about it

3. i don't miss the anxiety, the isolation, the madness and the doomscroll it brought

4. i've been going to a jamspace i share with a few pals, lurking on the 438punk.house (which is the only social site i'm on now) and going to events sometimes! what we do is local hehehehehe

slimey, 30, homosexual

1. i left instagram in 2020 when a stranger attempted to 'cancel' my book publishing project account for not using the platform to talk about the black lives matter movement

2. its been hard for finding people who are providing goods&services I want locally, like tattooers, other kinds of artists and other people working for themselves... often people don't upkeep a website anymore, just social media

3. i don't miss the ads and the political echo chamber

4. i post to my Signal story and have gotten into advanced sudoku. i live more under a rock and don't really get news but i prefer it that way

If you wanna stop enabling the rule of billionaire genocide-mongering fuckers but still want to have a place to shitpost or share your music/art/etc online, check out the new *Counterforce Guide to Mastodon & The Fediverse (for Punks!)* to learn about alternatives. Available to read online or in zine format the-counterforce.org/guide-to-mastodon-fediverse/

SHOWS

MORE SHOWS & MORE INFO: ASKAPUNK.NET

Vendredi 28 février – Friday February 28

Palestine benefit ft. JETSAM, DEADBOLT, VERIFY, KHASSARAT @ Blue Dog – 7pm/19h – $15 NOTAFLOF

ASHBREATHER, ØBELISK, VVOMB @ Turbo Haus – 8pm/20h – $10

DIRTY MILK, THAT STATIC, SKIN TONE, MOTHER MARY @ Hemisphère Gauche – 8:30pm/20h30 – $15

Vendredi 7 mars – Friday March 7

Yell Out gig #1 – BLOSSOM (Burlington VT), NO CHAIN (Boston), UZU, BOOT (Ottawa), CHILOPODA (Ottawa), MOROSE @ La Sotterenea – 7pm/19h – $25/soir $40/pass

Samedi 8 mars – Saturday March 8

Yell Out Workshops and Market @ Dira & Aux Révoltes, 12pm-7pm

Yell Out gig #2 – DESPERTÁ (St. John's NL), BRASS LIP (Calgary), DUREX, LICENSE (Ottawa), PIED DE BICHE, TAXI GIRLS @ La Sotterenea – 7pm/19h – $25/soir $40/pass ++ DJ after @ Casa

Vendredi 14 mars – Friday March 14

A DYING ROOT (Sherbrooke), DUMBASS, THE POX, D.T. @ La Biu – 9pm/21h – $10

Dimanche 16 mars – Sunday March 16

WILL TO SPEAK, STREET HASSLE (Syracuse NY), BFD (Niagara), UNFILED @ La Sotterenea – 7pm/19h – $20 NOTAFLOF, AA

Vendredi 21 mars – Friday March 21

KHASSARAT, WORKERS COMP (Toronto), COMPUTER (Toronto), RECALL @ La Sotterenea – 9pm/21h – $15

Samedi 22 mars – Saturday March 22

PEEVE (last show), JAVA, DUREX, LIFELINE @ Blue Dog – 8pm/20h – $10 NOTAFLOF

REALITY DENIED (St. Catharines), FATAL REALM (Hudson Valley, NY), CROSS OF DISBELIEF (Hudson Valley, NY), GRAVE WITHIN @ The Basement – 7pm/19h – $20, AA

SEUM, RATPISS, BAD OBJECTION @ Tapage/B7 – 7:30pm/19h30 – PWYC, AA

Vendredi 28 mars – Friday March 28

GREEN TEA (NY), JUTE, HIGH GROVE, INGRESS, MIOX @ Casa – 8pm/20h – $15

BLACK ABSINTHE (Toronto), SAMURAI, KILLOTINE (Hamilton), SPIRIT UNBOUND @ La Biu – 9pm/21h – $15 PWYC

Samedi 29 mars – Saturday March 29

WARKRUSHER, PORTAL TOMB, YOUNG BLADES @ Barfly – 8pm/20h – $15

a selection of new local hardcore/punk releases:

QUOI DE NEUF?

UNFILED – demo (Total Supply)
Catchy and dive-bomb-infused hardcore songs with something to say.

DUREX – Shame (Broken Skull)
First release since the big lineup switcheroo, "still fucks."

OCIOSA – S/T (s/r)
Recorded at Tapage, peak montreal winter music

IRON CRUSADERS – demo (Be About It)
A high-energy hardcore debut!

POISON SPEAR – Institutional Trust (s/r)
Kinda scary, lotsa feedback, dumb riffs... what else do you need.

ABOUT LA CHAÎNE:

La Chaîne est une infolettre mensuelle et un calendrier de shows de la scène punk DIY Montréalaise. Envoyez-nous vos contributions en français et/ou en anglais: les annonces de spectacles punk, les photos, les dessins, les critiques et les petits annonces. (Soumettre un article n'est pas une garantie de la publication.)

La Chaîne is a monthly newsletter and show calendar from the Montreal DIY punk scene. Send us your submissions in french and/or english: show announcements, photos, drawings, reviews and classified ads. (Submission does not guarantee publication.)

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